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## Egypt

## Oilseeds and Products

## Annual

## 2000

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### Report Highlights:

Egyptian area planted to both sunflowerseed and soybean have declined drastically in MY 1999/2000. Soybean meal imports rose 18 percent, with U.S exports increasing 6 percent in 1999. Imports of soybeans in MY 2000/2001 are projected to increase while imports of soybean meal expected to decrease significantly following the anticipated start of operation of a large soybean crushing facility in 2000. Egyptian vegetable oil imports declined by 8 percent respectively in 1999 and further decline is projected for MY 2000 .

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Includes PSD changes: Yes  
Includes Trade Matrix: Yes  
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## Oilseeds

### Area planted and Yields

Total Egyptian oilseed area for MY 1999/2000 fell to 276,000 HA, down from 302,000 HA in MY 1998/99. There was a drastic decline in both sunflowerseed and soybean area about 66 percent and 61 percent respectively. The decline in the sunflower area is attributed to financial problems that are facing the sole company that crushes sunflower seeds in Egypt. This company is currently managed by the bank that provided its investment loan. The decline in the soybean area was mostly due to the low price paid to farmers compared to other alternative crops. Cotton planted area also declined by about 2.8 percent. Some farmers were reluctant to plant cotton after the government did not announce a minimum guaranteed procurement price for the 1999/2000 crop. For MY 2000/2001 it is expected that both cotton and sunflowerseed area will remain almost unchanged, while soybeans area is projected to decline slightly, assuming that the new soybeans crushing plant in Alexandria will utilize only imported soybeans.

Cottonseed yields averaged about 0.82 MT/HA in MY 1999/2000, compared to 0.81 /MT/HA in MY 1998/99, while soybean yields averaged 2.64 MT/ HA compared to 2.74 MT/HA in 1998/99. Sunflowerseed yields averaged 2.4 MT/HA in MY 1999/2000, compared to 2.3 in MY 1998/99.

### Crushing Capacity and Utilization:

Annual oilseed crushing capacity in Egypt is currently estimated at 1.2 million tons, most of which are outdated facilities. About 75 percent of this capacity is owned by public sector companies. The rest is operated by private sector firms, including three companies that have recently been repossessed by their financing banks. With the decline in oilseed production and the financial problems facing some private sector companies, only about 40 percent of total crushing capacity is currently utilized in Egypt. However, a new private sector company is currently constructing a modern soybean crushing plant in Alexandria with total capacity of 5000 MT/day. According to the company officials, after a long delay, it will start operation before the end of 2000. Although company officials reported that about one million MT of soybeans might be imported to supply the plant with raw material for the first phase, we estimate that imports will be significantly lower. It is estimated that the company will produce no more than 300,000 MT of soybean meal and 50,000 MT of soybean oil during its first year of production.

In addition to the Alexandria crushing plant, there are two other small private sector crushing plants for cottonseed and soybean. The first is a dual soybean/cottonseed plant in Alexandria with a total crushing capacity of 400 MT/day of soybeans or 250 MT/day of cottonseed. This plant has been finished and started partial operation in Jan 2000. The second plant is under construction in the port of Damietta with soybean crushing capacity 400,000 MT/year and is expected to be finished in two years.

Total soybean consumption in MY 1999/2000 is estimated at 134,000 MT about 30 percent lower than the previous year. Of this amount, about 115,000 MT was crushed and the balance was used in the production of both full-fat soybean and soyfood products (12,000 MT and 7,000 MT, respectively).

## Trade and Prices

Despite its excess crushing capacity, Egypt is not a major oilseed importer. One constraint is that imports of cottonseed are forbidden as a precaution against the introduction of new cotton pests and diseases into Egypt. Imports of sunflowerseed in MY 1999 were zero and no imports are expected in MY 2000, due to financial problems facing the only sunflower crushing plant in Egypt. Imports of soybeans declined to 115,000 MT in MY 1999/2000, they are expected to jump to 376,000 MT in MY 2000/2001 due to the anticipated start of the new private sector crushing plant. This estimate is much lower than the estimate provided by the crusher, who expects to import over 800,000 MT of soybean in MY 2000/2001.

The GOE instructions issued to the commercial banks in February 1999 not to open letters of credits unless the importers deposit 100% cash payment of the value of the imported shipments have recently been relaxed. At present, importers can deposit 40 percent cash payment of the value of the imported shipment.

In CY 1999, Egypt imported 53,000 MT of soybeans from the U.S. at an average price \$ 277/MT C&F, and the balance was imported from Argentina at the same average price. U.S. soybean exports were competitive during August-January, while the Argentina exports were cheaper during Feb-July. The current average C&F price for soybeans from the U.S. is \$ 220/MT, while the price of Argentina and Brazilian soybean are \$203/MT and \$205/MT, respectively.

## Tariffs

The tariff rate for soybeans, sunflower seed, linseed, palm kernel, and sesame seed, is one percent. For castor seed, copra, and rapeseed, the rate is 5 percent. For ground nuts, the rate is 30 percent.

## OIL MEALS

### Production

Total oil meals production declined in MY 1999 as a result of the decline in local production as well as soybeans imports. However, production of soybean meal is projected to jump from 90,000 MT in MY 1999 to 300,000 MT in MY 2000, due to the expected start of operation of the new soybean crushing plant in Alexandria.

### Meal Consumption and Utilization

Soybean and cottonseed meal are currently the main source of protein for animal feed manufacturing in Egypt. Soybean meal is mostly utilized in poultry rations (90 percent) while cottonseed cake and very small amounts of sunflowerseed meal are used in livestock feed. In MY 1999/2000, total consumption of soybean meal estimated at 820,000 MT, compared to 760,000 MT in 1998/99. Total consumption is expected to increase due to two reasons. First, the government relaxation of its financial banking restrictions imposed in February 1999. Second, the shortage of cottonseed meal production forced many dairy and beef producers to include soybean meal in their animals rations as a substitute for cottonseed meal. For MY 1999/2000, it is projected that soybean meal consumption will increase by 7 percent, as a result of the increase in the demand for feed for poultry and livestock.

## Trade and Prices

Soybean meal continues to be the only meal imported into Egypt. In CY 1999, total soybean meal imports were estimated at 806,000 MT, or about 18 percent above the 1998 level. This increase was due to the growth in the poultry sector. U.S. soybean meal exports to Egypt in 1999 increased 6 percent, to 191,000 MT, while Argentina exports maintained its market share at about 74 percent. Egyptian imports of soybean meal in 2000 are expected to decline by about 30 percent. They are forecast to decline further in the year 2001, due mainly to the start of production in the new crushing plants.

U.S. soybean meal is currently imported at an average price of \$ 208/MT/C&F for the 44% protein and at \$220/MT for 48% protein, compared to \$176/MT/C&F for 44% and \$188/MT/C&F for 48% protein in MY 1998/99. The current C&F price for soybean meal from Argentina is about \$2 to \$3 /MT less than the U.S soybean meal. Oilseed meal and cake extracted from vegetable oilseeds are subjected to an import duty of 10 percent.

## OIL

### Production

Cottonseed oil continues to be the major vegetable oil produced in Egypt. In 1999, vegetable oil production was down 11 percent as a result of the decline in domestic soybeans and sunflowerseed production as well as the increased amounts of soybeans destined to other industries (i.e. full-fat soy and soyfood). However, with the anticipated operation of the new plant in Alexandria before the end of 2000, it is projected that soybean oil production will jump from 19,000 MT in 1999 to 65,000 MT in MY 2000. Total vegetable oil production is forecast to increase to 122,000 MT in MY 2000, compared to 80,000 MT in MY 1999. At the present time, the crushing soybean plant does not have a refining facility, but there are other public and private sector companies that are currently refining imported crude oils. Total Egyptian refining capacity for vegetable seed oils and palm oil, is estimated at about 1.4 million MT, of which 672,000 MT, are public and the rest is private .

### Consumption

Total oil consumption declined 9% in MY 1999/2000 to 785,000 MT (including 325,000 MT of palm oil). The decrease in vegetable oils in MY 1999/2000 is mainly attributed to the decline in the sunflowerseed oil imports following the implementation of the banking regulations of 1999 that limited imports. Soybean oil use, however, has increased during the last three years due to the improvement in refining process that helped enhance the quality of the oil. Previously, consumers used to avoid soybean oil because of poor refining. Sunflower oil continues to be the preferred oil among consumers, due to its price competitiveness, lighter color and acceptable flavor. For MY 2000/2001, it is expected that vegetable oil consumption increases will roughly follow population growth (2.1 percent annually).

Egyptian per capita consumption of oils is estimated at about 12 Kg./year. Given the importance of oils in Egyptian cuisine, this low consumption figure strongly suggests that oil is often used well after its optimal life span (particularly in popular restaurants). Two-thirds of oils were used for direct household and institutional consumption. The remainder is used to manufacture ghee. A portion of the vegetable oil consumption in Egypt is subsidized and distributed through a ration card system. Ration card holders are allowed only 0.50 Kg /person/month at a subsidized price of LE 0.50.

The price for oil marketed by private producers range from LE 3.75/Kg to LE 4.50 Kg. Ghee produced by the public sector currently sells at an average price of LE 7.50 for 2 Kilogram tin, while privately packed ghee sells at 8.00 for a 2 Kilogram.

Because of its relatively low price, palm oil continues to maintain its competitive position with other imported oil for both human consumption and industrial use. Palm stearin is imported mainly as a substitute for tallow in soap manufacturing.

### **Trade and Prices**

Egyptian oil imports decreased about 8 percent in MY 1999/2000 and are forecast to decline further in MY 2000 due to the start of production in the new soybean crushing plant in Alexandria. Plant officials expects to have ten percent price advantage over imported oils. In CY 1999, public sector companies imported about 60 percent of vegetable oil, with the rest imported by private sector companies.

Crude sunflower oil is currently imported at \$ 390/MT/C&F compared to \$400/MT/C&F in 1999. The current C&F price for crude soybean oil is \$384/MT, compared to \$390/MT in 1999, while the current price of imported semi-refined cottonseed oil is \$412 MT/C&F compared to \$420/MT/C&F in 1999.

Egyptian imports of palm oil, for both direct consumption and industrial uses increased in 1999 due to the decline in the prices of palm oil in the international market. The average price for imported palm oil in CY 1999 was \$340/MT C&F.

### **Tariffs**

Tariffs on imported seedoils are as follows:

A- For soybean, palm oil, sunflower, cotton, corn crude oil, whether or not degummed the rate for bulk is one percent; retail packed is 20 percent and for any other form of packaging the rate is 5 percent.

B- For ground-nut oil, olive oil, coconut, copra, rape bulk crude oil, the rate is 5 percent, while for the retail pack the rate is 20 percent.

C- For linseed oil and jojoba oil crude bulk, the rate is 15 percent, while for the retail pack the rate is 20 percent.

In addition to the above mentioned tariff rates, there is a sales tax of LE 37.4 per MT imposed on imported or locally produced oil sold in the Egyptian market. Seed oil imported for distribution under the ration card system is exempt from the sales tax. For imported hydrogenated oil, an addition sales tax of LE 40 per MT is added.

PSD Table						
Country:	Egypt					
Commodity:	Cottonseed					
		1998		1999		2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		10/98		10/99		10/2000
Area Planted (COTTON)	300	281	280	273	0	268
Area Harvested (COTTON)	300	281	280	273	0	268
Seed to Lint Ratio	6500	6700	6800	6700	0	6700
Beginning Stocks	10	10	10	10	0	10
Production	390	380	378	375	0	367
MY Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Imp. from the EC	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	400	390	388	385	0	377
MY Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Exp. to the EC	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crush Dom. Consumption	340	360	353	355	0	347
Food Use Dom. Consump.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Feed Seed Waste Dm.Cn.	50	20	20	20	0	20
Total Dom. Consumption	390	380	373	375	0	367
Ending Stocks	10	10	15	10	0	10
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	400	390	388	385	0	377
Calendar Year Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr Imp. U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Year Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calndr Yr Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

PSD Table						
Country:						
Commodity:	Cottonseed meal					
		1998		1999		2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		10/98		10/999		10/2000
Crush	340	360	353	355	0	347
Extr. Rate	0.7941176	0.7916667	0.6713881	0.811268	0	0.801153
Beginning Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production	270	285	237	288	0	278
MY Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Imp. from the EC	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	270	285	237	288	0	278
MY Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Exp. to the EC	0	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial Dom. Consum	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food Use Dom. Consump.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Feed Waste Dom.Consum.	270	285	237	288	0	278
Total Dom. Consumption	270	285	237	288	0	278
Ending Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	270	285	237	288	0	278
Calendar Year Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr Imp. U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Year Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calndr Yr Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0



PSD Table						
Country:						
Commodity:	Cottonseed oil					
		1998		1999		2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		10/98		10/99		10/2000
Crush	340	360	353	355	0	347
Extr. Rate	0.14706	0.16667	0.16431	0.1690141	0	0.167147
Beginning Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production	50	60	58	60	0	58
MY Imports	5	11	10	10	0	10
MY Imp. from U.S.	10	0	2	0	0	2
MY Imp. from the EC	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	55	71	68	70	0	68
MY Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Exp. to the EC	0	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial Dom. Consum	2	2	2	2	0	2
Food Use Dom. Consump.	53	69	66	68	0	66
Feed Waste Dom.Consum.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dom. Consumption	55	71	68	70	0	68
Ending Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	55	71	68	70	0	68
Calendar Year Imports	7	11	8	10	0	8
Calendar Yr Imp. U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Year Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calndr Yr Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

Import Trade Matrix			
Country:		Units:	000 MT
Commodity:			Oil
Time period:			
Imports for	1998		1999
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Syria	8	Syria	5
Turkey	3	Turkey	2
		Greece	3
Total for Others	11		10
Others not listed			
Grand Total	11		10

PSD Table						
Country:	Egypt					
Commodity:	Soybean	seed				
		1998		1999		2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		10/98		10/99		10/2000
Area Planted	10	18	20	7	0	6
Area Harvested	10	18	20	7	0	6
Beginning Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production	25	47	50	19	0	16
MY Imports	180	145	400	115	0	400
MY Imp. from U.S.	100	52	200	53	0	200
MY Imp. from the EC	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	205	192	450	134	0	416
MY Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Exp. to the EC	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crush Dom. Consumption	200	160	440	115	0	376
Food Use Dom. Consump.	0	7	0	9	0	15
Feed Waste Dom.Consum.	5	25	10	10	0	25
Total Dom. Consumption	205	192	450	134	0	416
Ending Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	205	192	450	134	0	416
Calendar Year Imports	200	115	300	150	0	400
Calendar Yr Imp. U.S.	100	52	120	53	0	200
Calendar Year Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calndr Yr Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

Import Trade Matrix			
Country:		Units:	
Commodity:		seed	
Time period:			
Imports for	1998		1999
U.S.	52	U.S.	53
Others		Others	
Argentina	63	Argentina	63
		U.K	3
Total for Others	63		66
Others not listed			31
Grand Total	115		150

PSD Table						
Country:						
Commodity:	Soybean meal					
		1998		1999		2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		10/98		10/99		10/2000
Crush	200	160	440	115	0	376
Extr. Rate	0.9	0.8125	0.818182	0.7826087	0	0.7978723
Beginning Stocks	10	20	20	10	0	40
Production	180	130	360	90	0	300
MY Imports	580	620	400	760	0	550
MY Imp. from U.S.	220	200	120	190	0	120
MY Imp. from the EC	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	770	770	780	860	0	890
MY Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Exp. to the EC	0	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial Dom. Consum	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food Use Dom. Consump.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Feed Waste Dom. Consum.	750	760	760	820	0	880
Total Dom. Consumption	750	760	760	820	0	880
Ending Stocks	20	10	20	40	0	10
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	770	770	780	860	0	890
Calendar Year Imports	550	683	450	806	0	450
Calendar Yr Imp. U.S.	150	200	140	191	0	120
Calendar Year Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calndr Yr Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

Import Trade Matrix			
Country:		Units:	
Commodity:		Meal	
Time period:			
Imports for	1998		1999
U.S.	180	U.S.	191
Others		Others	
Argentina	480	Argentina	600
Brazil	13	Brazil	15
Total for Others	493		615
Others not listed	10		
Grand Total	683		806

PSD Table						
Country:						
Commodity:	Soybean oil					
		1998		1999		2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		10/98		10/99		10/2000
Crush	200	160	440	115	0	376
Extr. Rate	0.18	0.16875	0.16818	0.165217	0	0.16755
Beginning Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production	36	27	74	19	0	63
MY Imports	20	123	80	150	0	100
MY Imp. from U.S.	20	23	10	25	0	20
MY Imp. from the EC	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	56	150	154	169	0	163
MY Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Exp. to the EC	0	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial Dom. Consum	15	15	10	15	0	10
Food Use Dom. Consump.	41	135	144	154	0	153
Feed Waste Dom.Consum.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dom. Consumption	56	150	154	169	0	163
Ending Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	56	150	154	169	0	163
Calendar Year Imports	10	116	90	147	0	90
Calendar Yr Imp. U.S.	0	23	20	41	0	20
Calendar Year Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calndr Yr Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

Import Trade Matrix			
Country:		Units:	
Commodity:		oil	
Time period:			
Imports for	1998		1999
U.S.	23	U.S.	25
Others		Others	
Brazil	53	Argentina	41
France	17	Brazil	24
Spain	10	France	23
Argentina	6	Belgium	15
Switzerland	3	Spain	11
Croatia	2	Norway	4
Turkey	2	Holland	3
Total for Others	93		121
Others not listed			1
Grand Total	116		147



PSD Table						
Country:	Egypt					
Commodity:	Sunflowerseed					
		1998		1999		2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		10/98		10/99		10/2000
Area Planted	5	3	2	1	0	1
Area Harvested	5	3	2	1	0	1
Beginning Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production	12	7	5	2	0	2
MY Imports	20	0	0	0	0	0
MY Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Imp. from the EC	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	32	7	5	2	0	2
MY Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Exp. to the EC	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crush Dom. Consumption	22	7	5	2	0	2
Food Use Dom. Consump.	8	0	0	0	0	0
Feed Waste Dom.Consum.	2	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dom. Consumption	32	7	5	2	0	2
Ending Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	32	7	5	2	0	2

Calendar Year Imports	4	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Yr Imp. U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Year Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calndr Yr Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

PSD Table						
Country:						
Commodity:	Sunflowerseed oil					
		1998		1999		2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		10/98		10/99		10/2000
Crush	22	7	5	2	0	2
Extr. Rate	0.363636	0.428571	0.4	0.5	0	0.5
Beginning Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production	8	3	2	1	0	1
MY Imports	350	320	240	222	0	240
MY Imp. from U.S.	100	12	50	19	0	50
MY Imp. from the EC	30	62	61	66	0	61
TOTAL SUPPLY	358	323	242	223	0	241
MY Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Exp. to the EC	0	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial Dom. Consum	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food Use Dom. Consump.	358	323	242	223	0	241
Feed Waste Dom.Consum.	0	0	0	0	0	0

Total Dom. Consumption	358	323	242	223	0	241
Ending Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	358	323	242	223	0	241
Calendar Year Imports	325	328	230	220	0	230
Calendar Yr Imp. U.S.	25	12	20	12	0	20
Calendar Year Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calndr Yr Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0

Import Trade Matrix			
Country:		Units:	
Commodity:			Oil
Time period:			
Imports for	1998		1999
U.S.	12	U.S.	19
Others		Others	
Argentina	212	Argentina	129
Ukrein	57	Switzerland	30
France	16	Turkey	21
Spain	8	Ukrein	8
Rssia	7	Malaysia	4
France	4	Syria	4
Korwatia	4	Russia	3
Rumania	4	Rumania	
Bulgaria	4		

Total for Others	316		199
Others not listed			2
Grand Total	328		220

PSD Table						
Country:	Egypt					
Commodity:	Oil, Palm					
		1998		1999		2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		10/98		10/99		10/2000
Area Planted	0	0	0	0	0	0
Area Harvested	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trees	0	0	0	0	0	0
Beginning Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Imports	330	311	300	325	0	330
MY Imp. from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Imp. from the EC	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	330	311	300	325	0	330

MY Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
MY Exp. to the EC	0	0	0	0	0	0
Industrial Dom. Consum.	120	100	90	100	0	110
Food Use Dom. Consump.	210	211	210	225	0	220
Feed Seed Waste Dm.Cn.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dom. Consumption	330	311	300	325	0	330
Ending Stocks	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	330	311	300	325	0	330
Calendar Year Imports	320	300	290	300	0	290
Calendar Yr Imp. U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calendar Year Exports	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calndr Yr Exp. to U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0